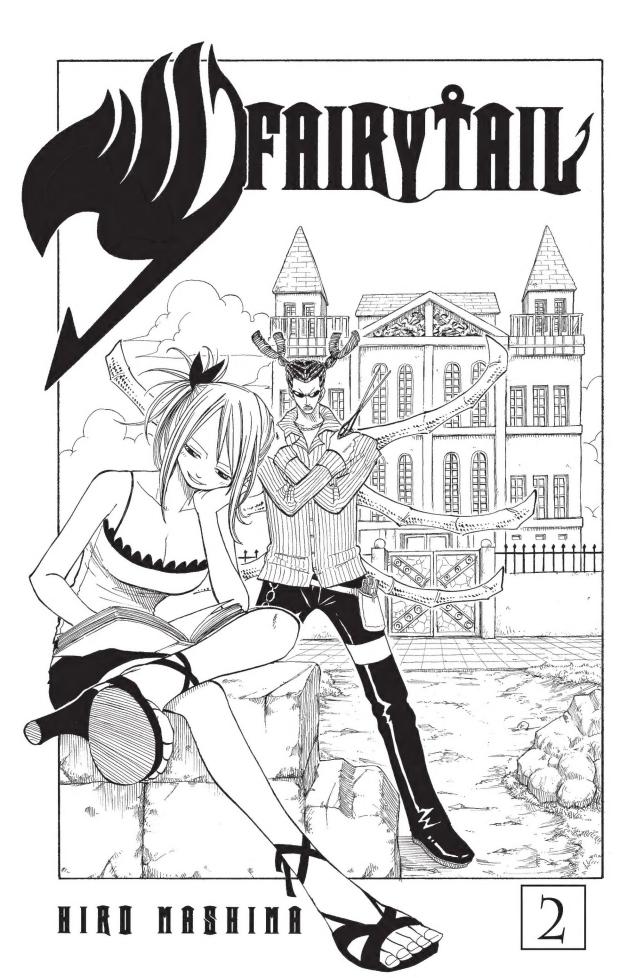
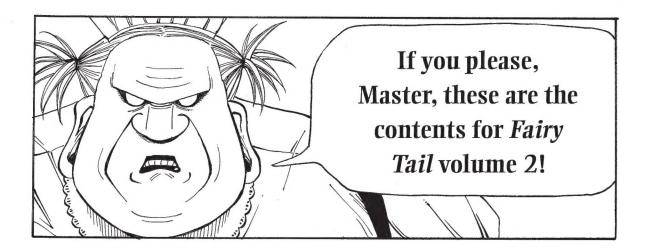


Hivo Mashima Rave Master





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Chapter 6: Invade!! The Everlue Mansion + + + 23

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Chapter 8: Lucy vs. Duke Everlue + + + 63

Chapter 9: Dear Kaby + + + 84

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Chapter 12: Spell Song + + + 145

Chapter 13: Death Laughs Twice + + + 167

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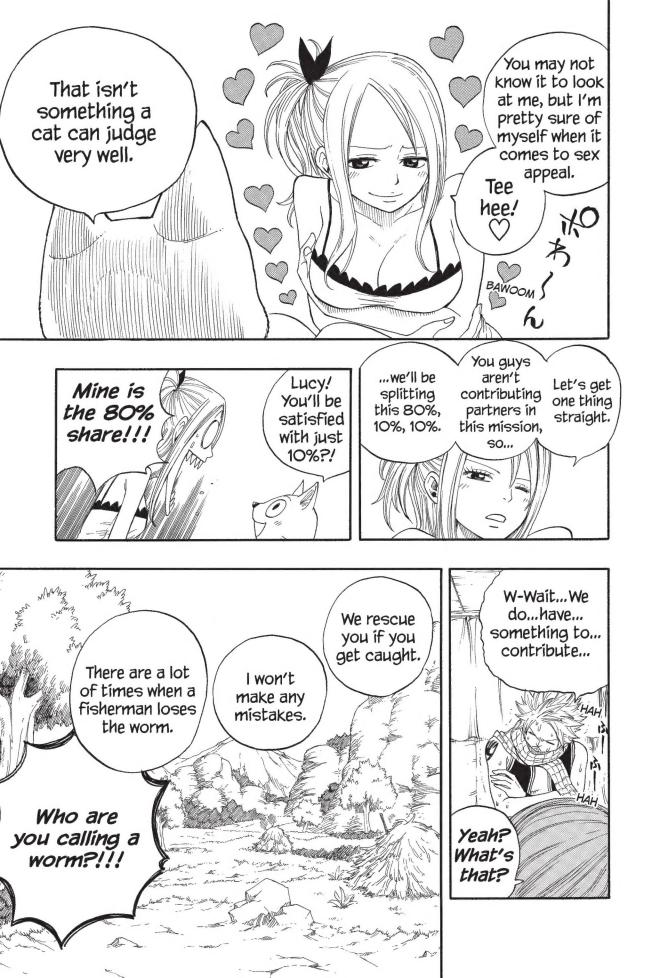
















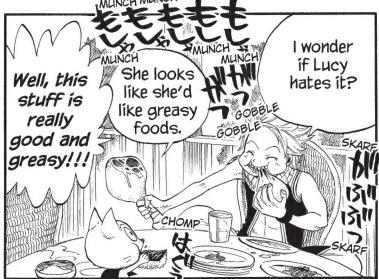






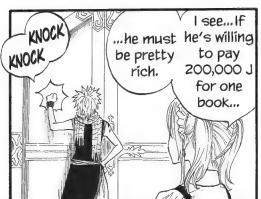


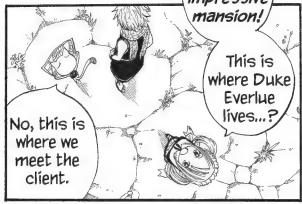






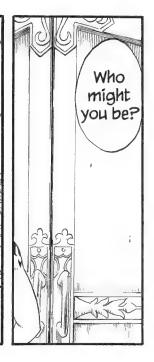












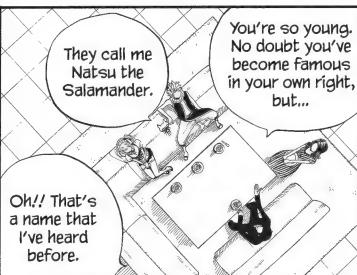




































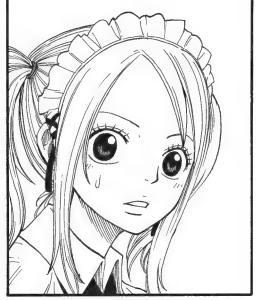














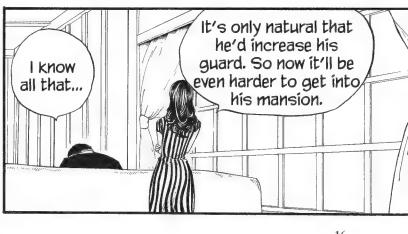




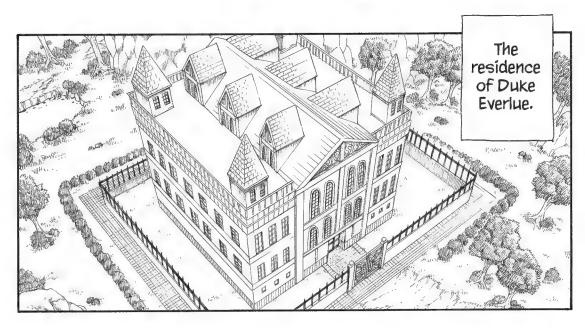


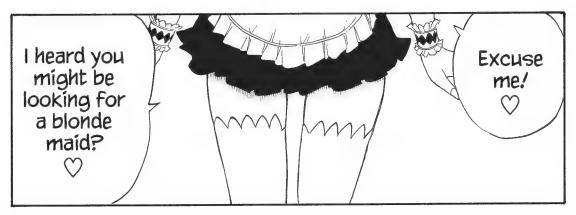








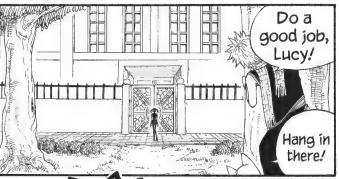






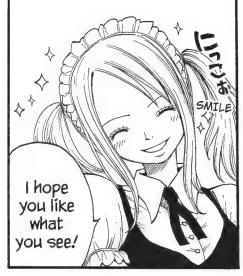






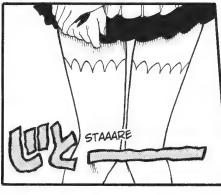








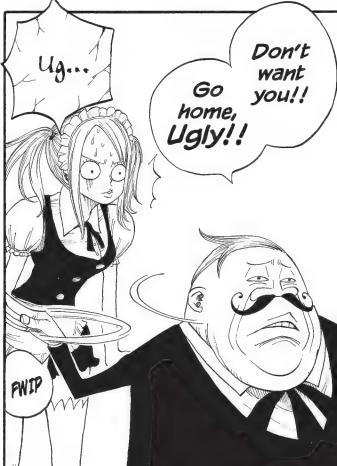




















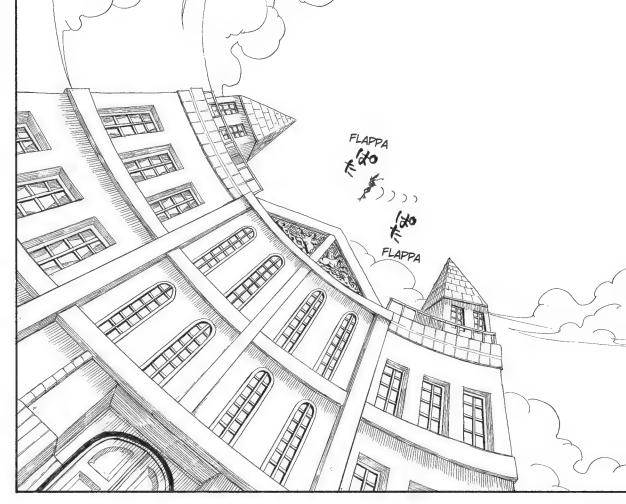






Chapter 6: Invade!! The Everlue Mansion











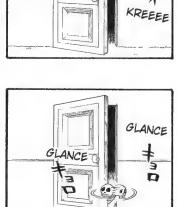














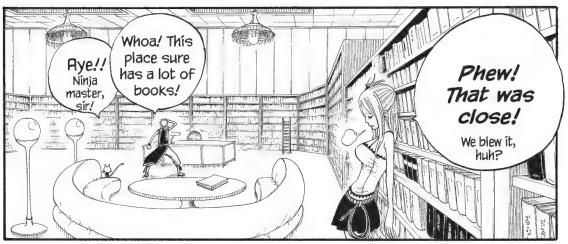


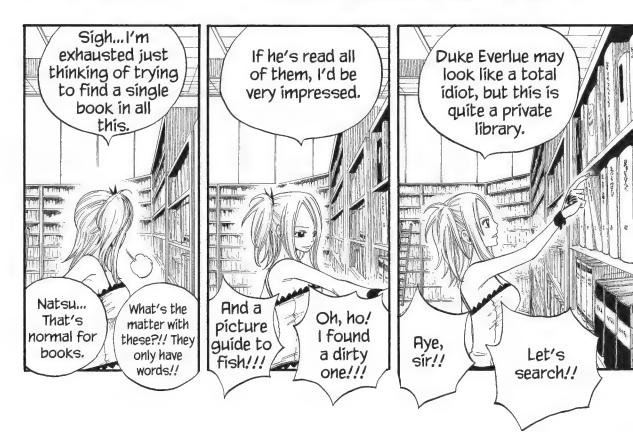






















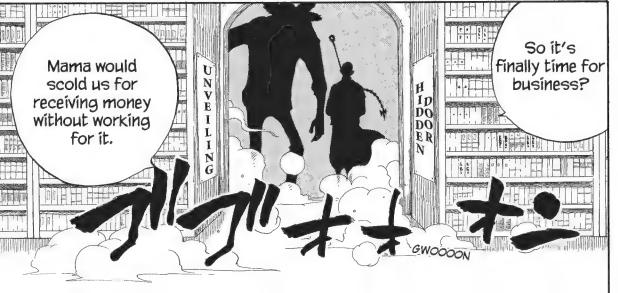
















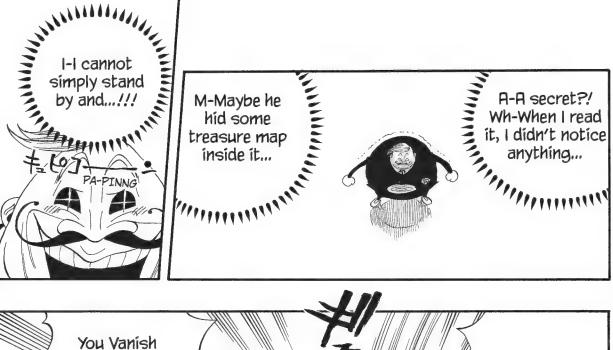


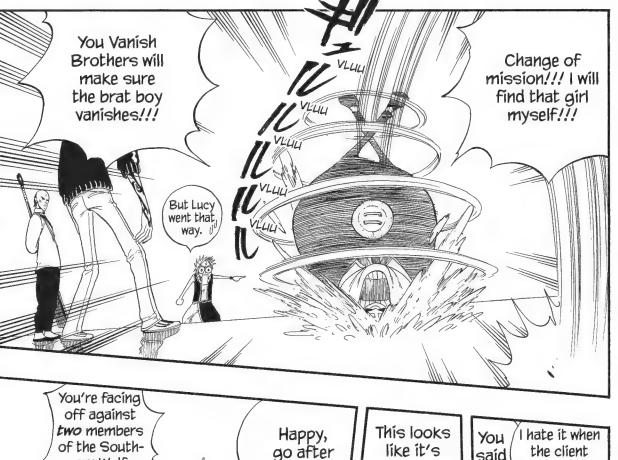








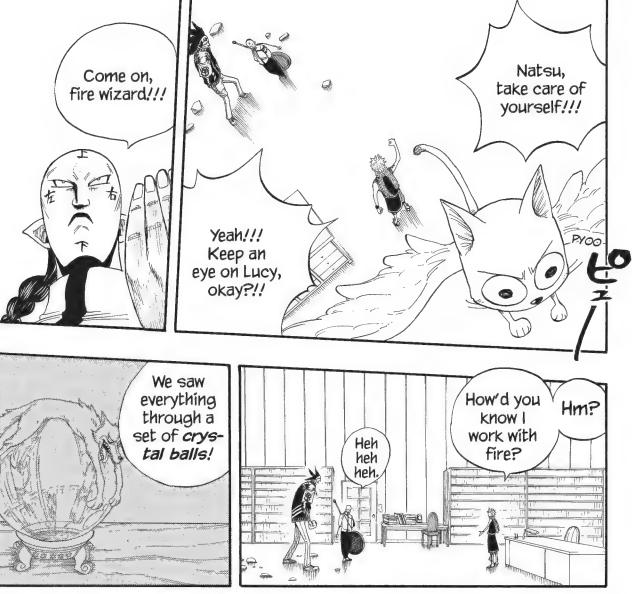


















Chapter 7: The Wizard's Weakness















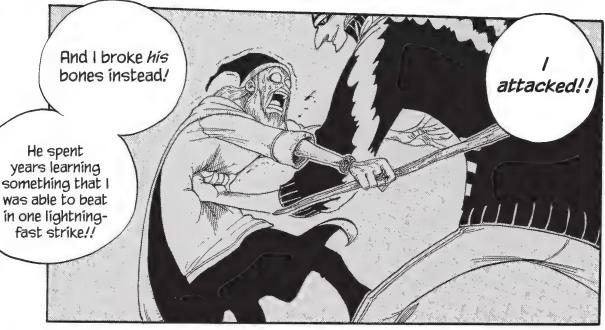
































































Chapter 8: Lucy vs. Duke Everlue



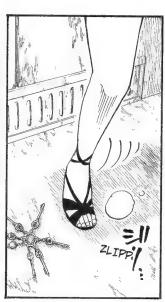






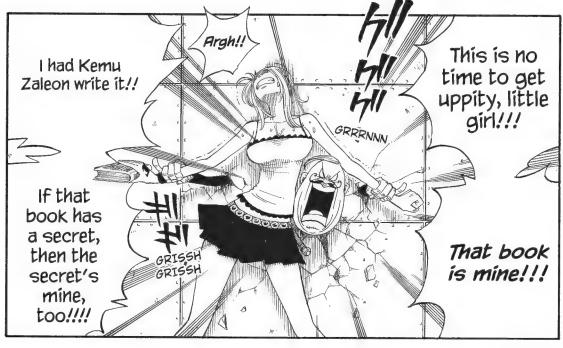






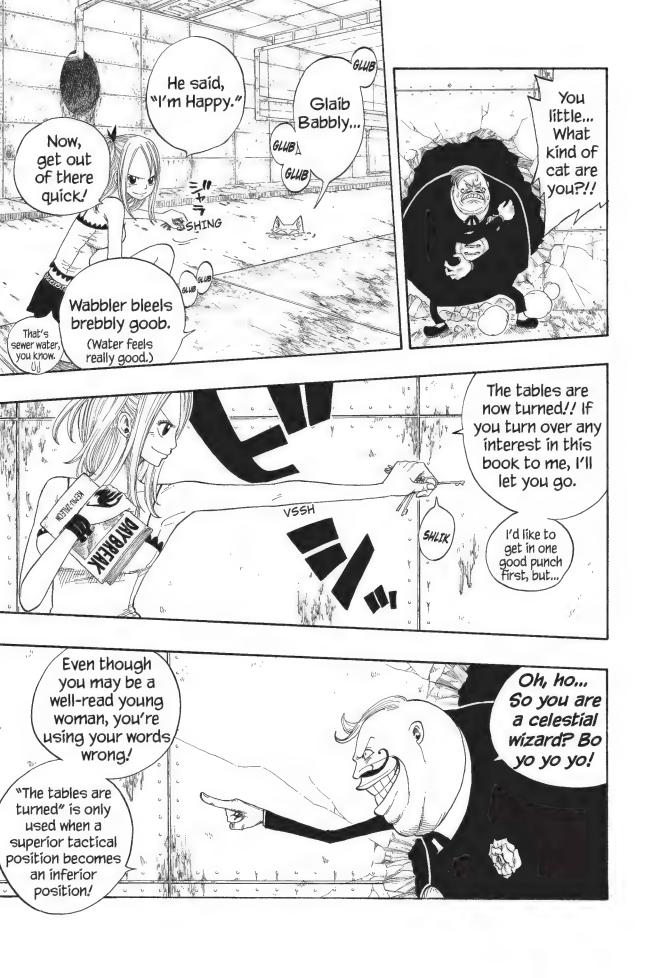




















































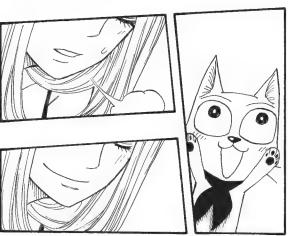
















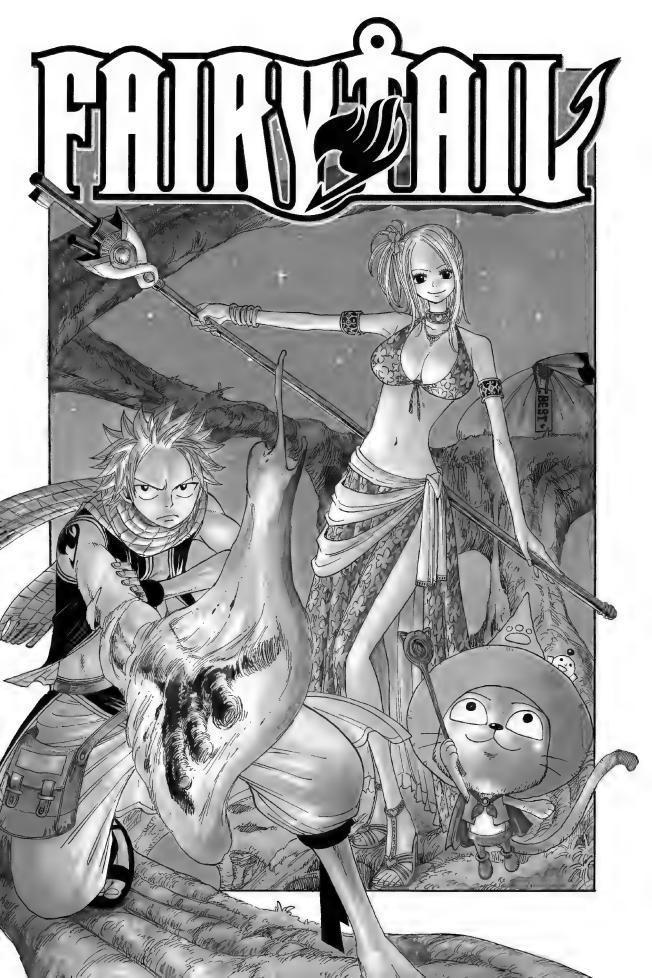




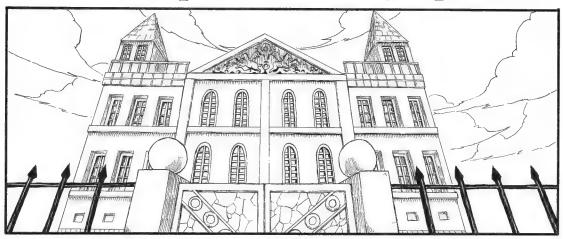
You really made a show of it, huh, Lucy?

HUG





Chapter 9: Dear Kaby



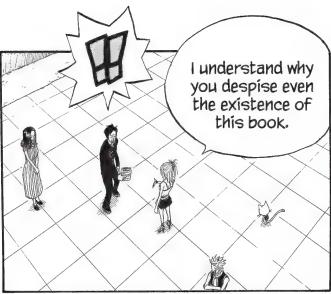


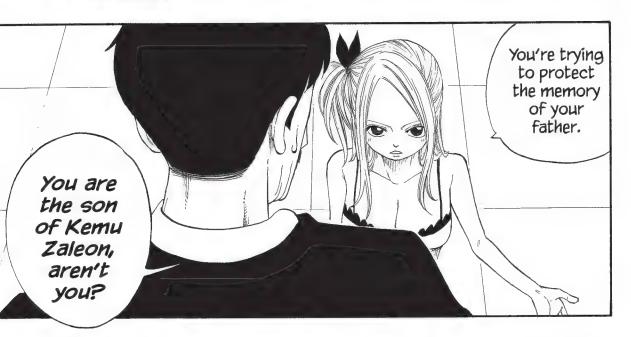






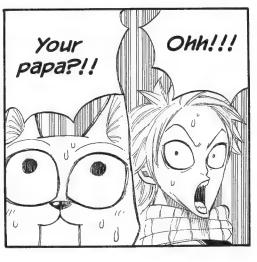




















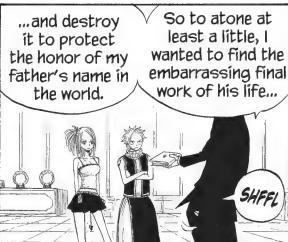














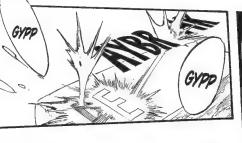
















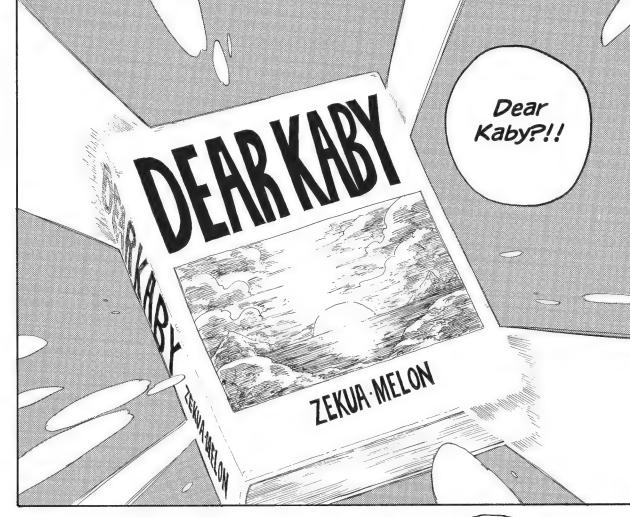




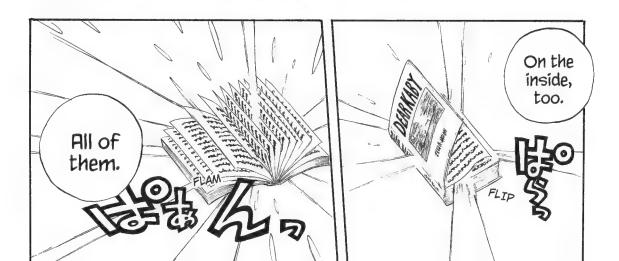












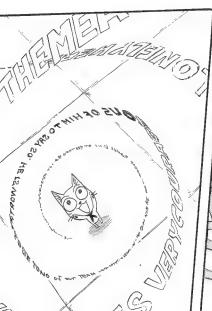






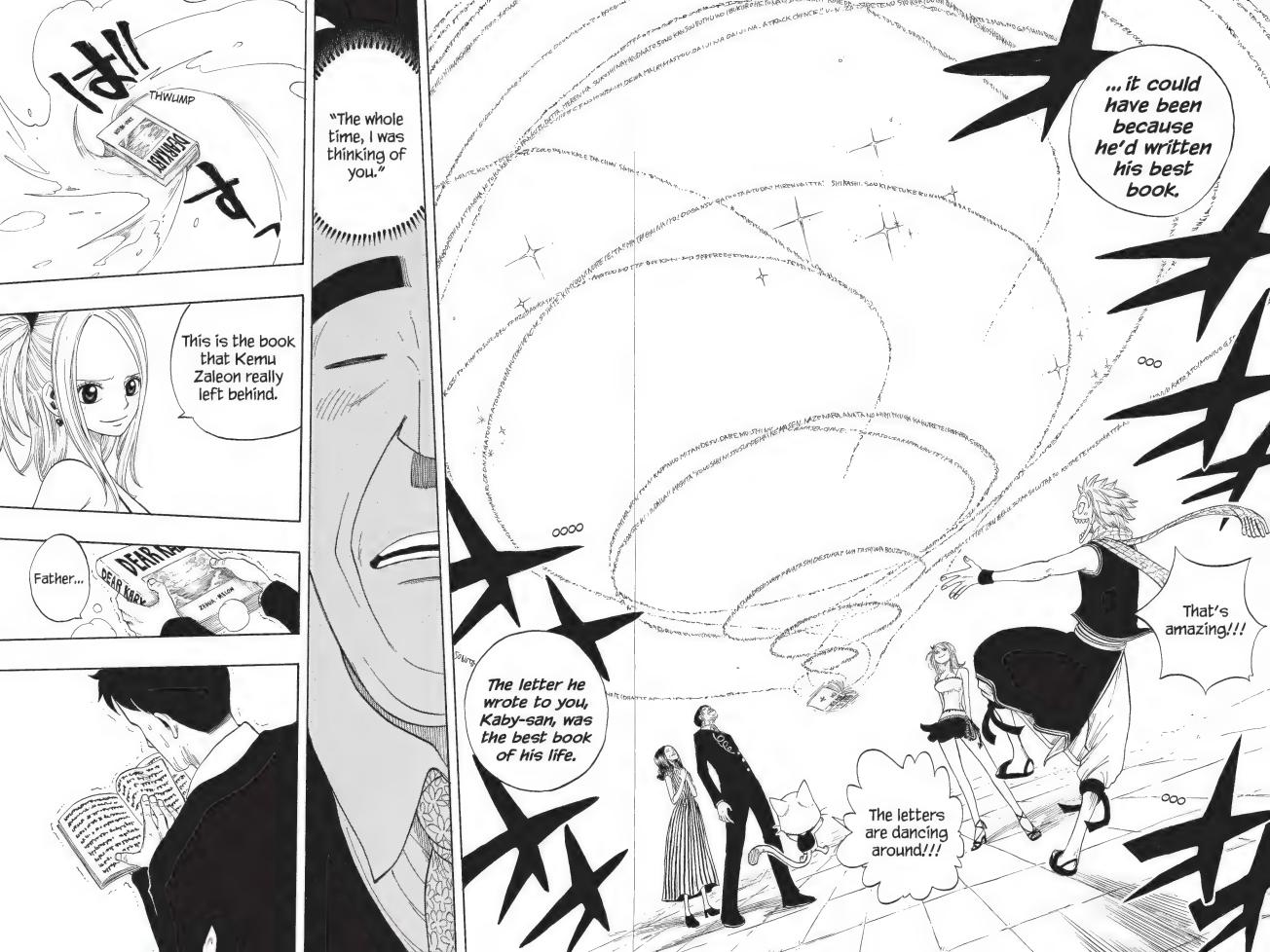




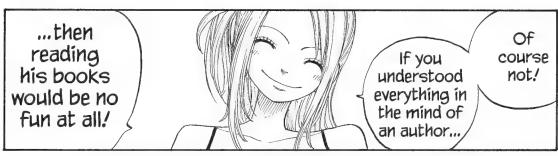




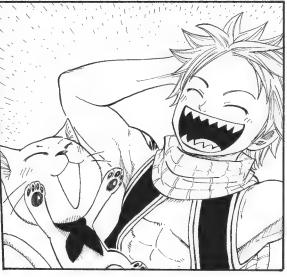


















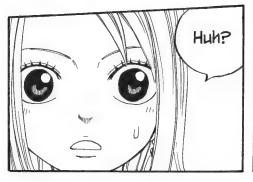




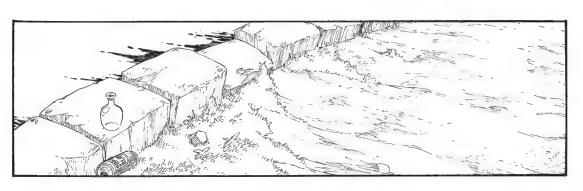


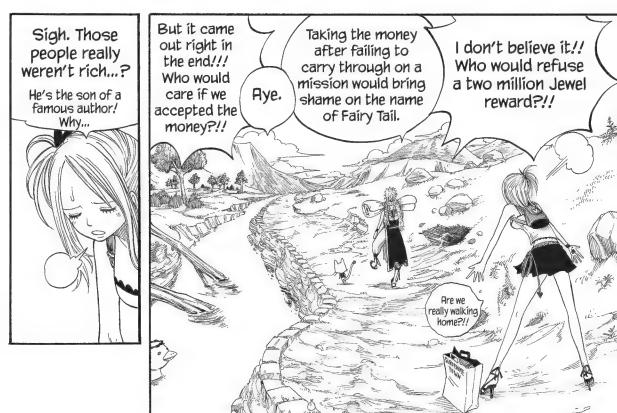






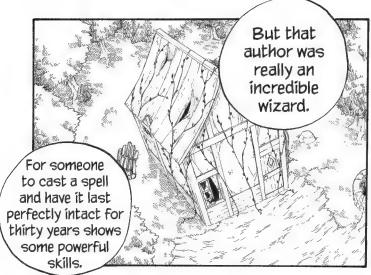








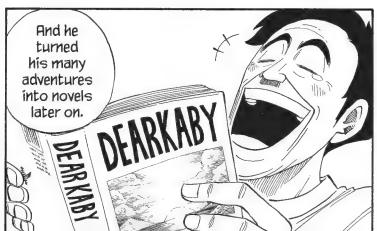








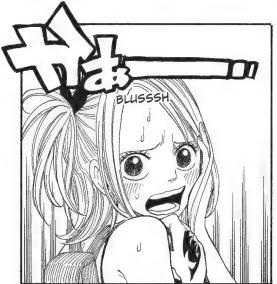


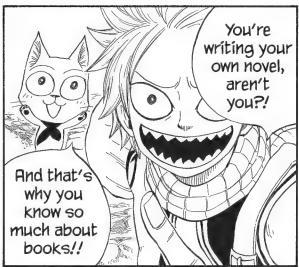












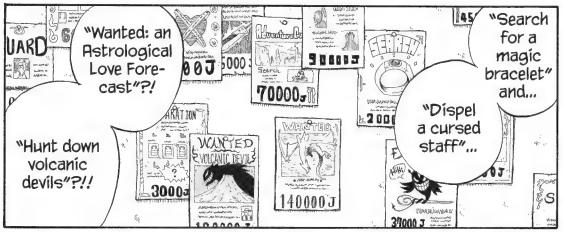




Chapter 10: The Armored Wizard

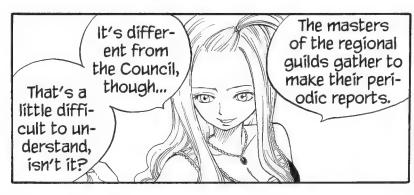






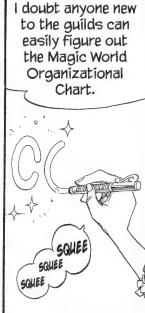




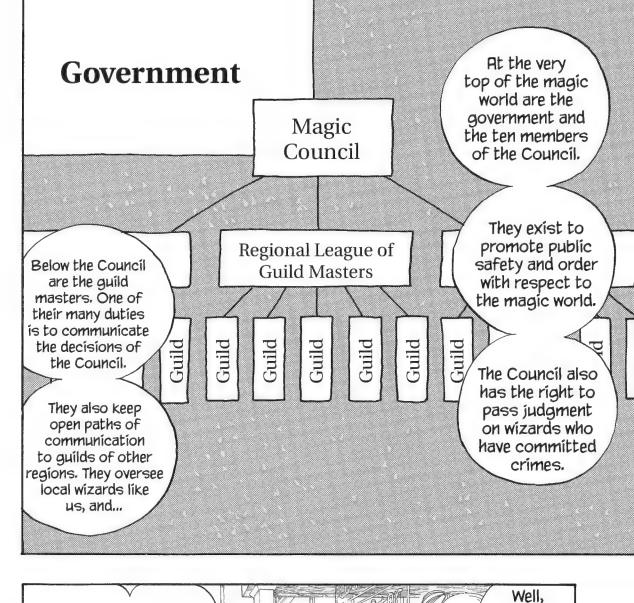


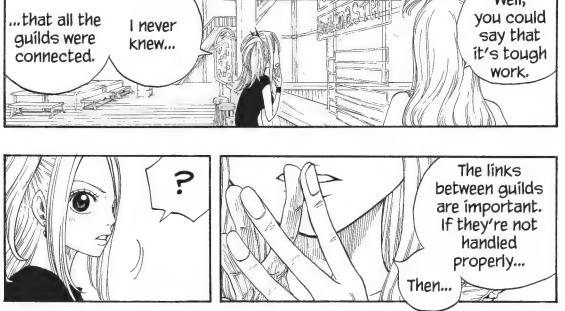
















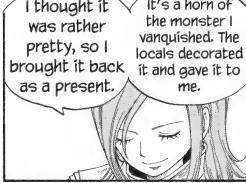






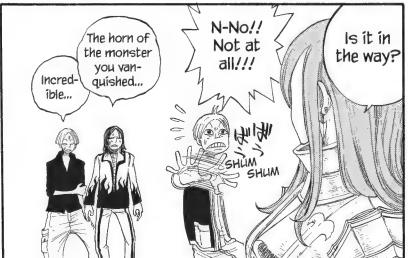










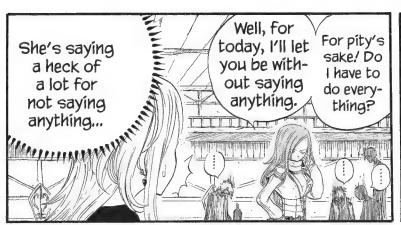














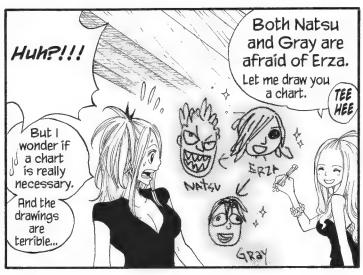










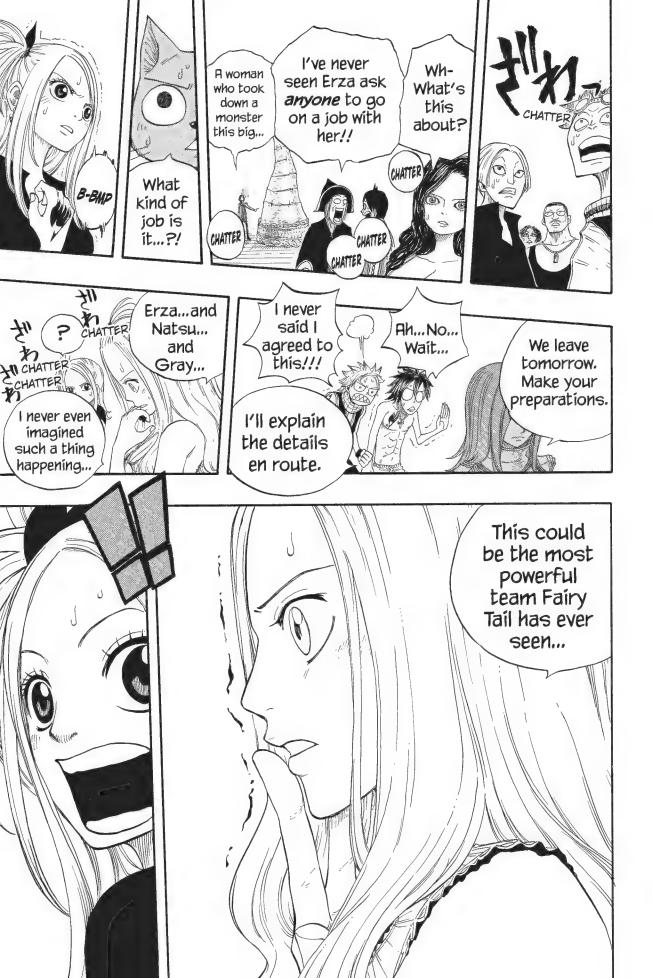




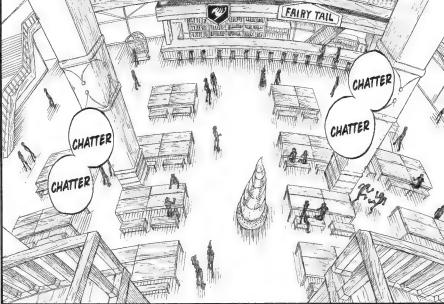




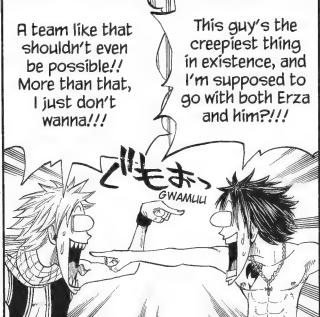


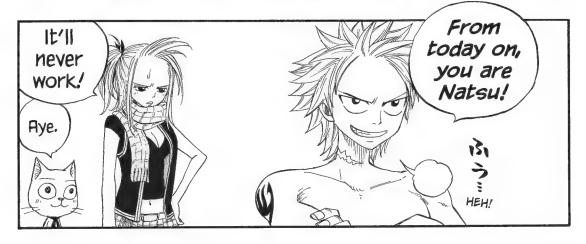




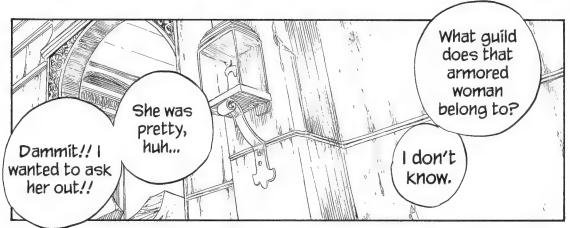






















Chapter 11: Natsu on the Train







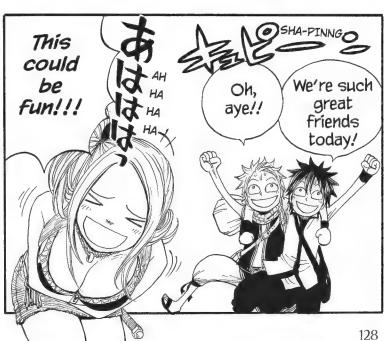






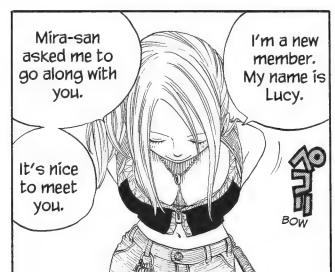


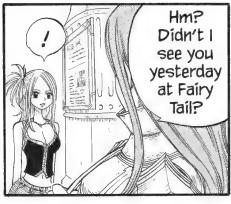






















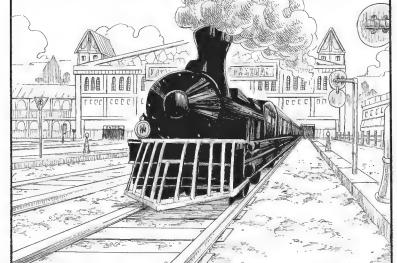








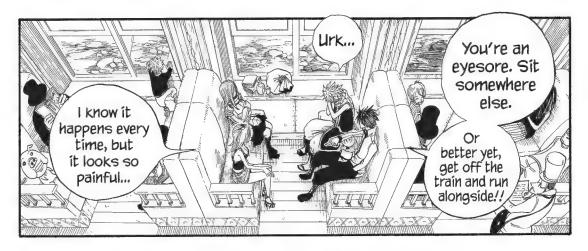


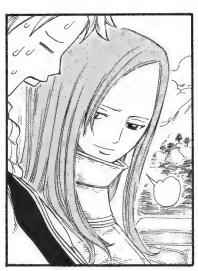


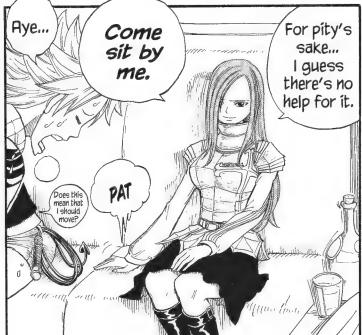






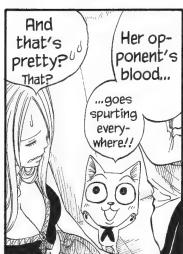


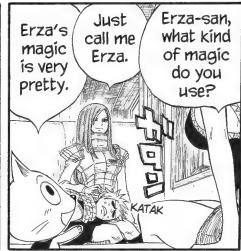


















My magic isn't anything much. If you want pretty magic, Gray's is much prettier than mine.





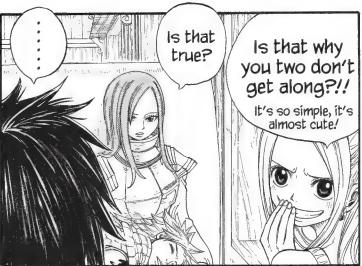






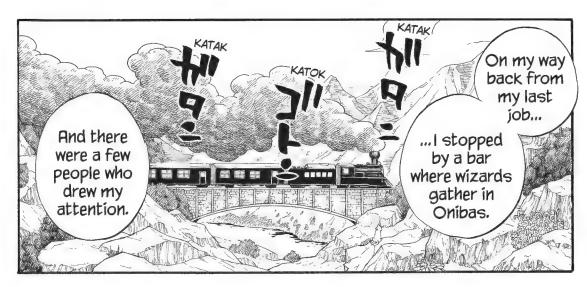








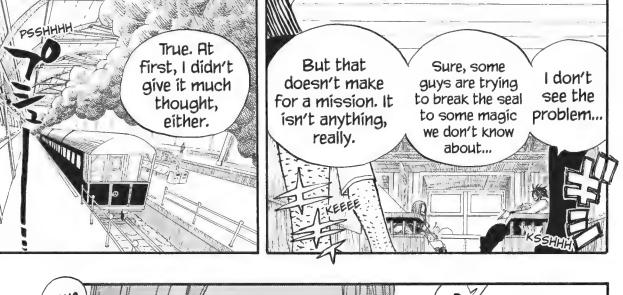


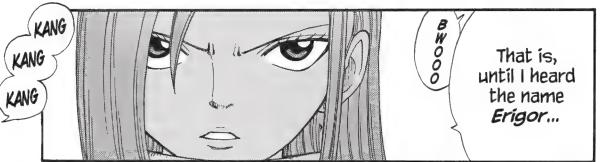






















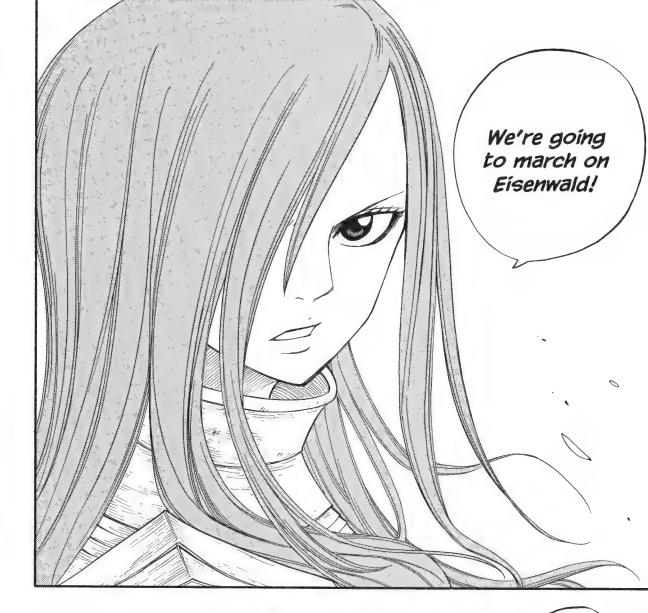




I wasn't paying



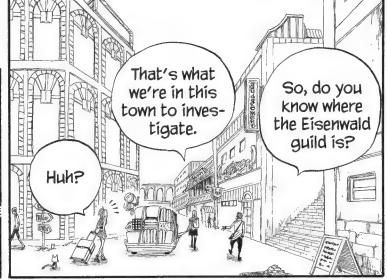


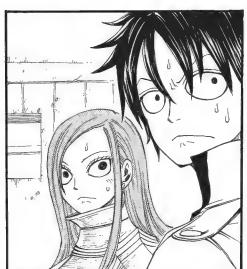
























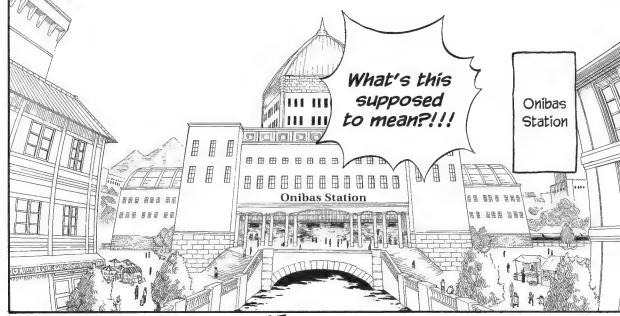








Chapter 12: Spell Song











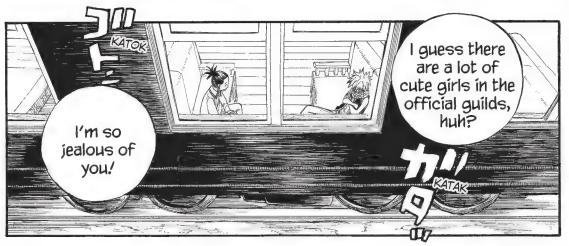
right?

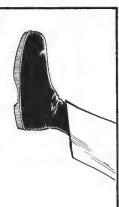
right?











Or let's just...



There are no signs of a girl even coming near our guild.









You want

to take

me on?

Hya ha ha!!

What's that

supposed to be? Is that magic?!

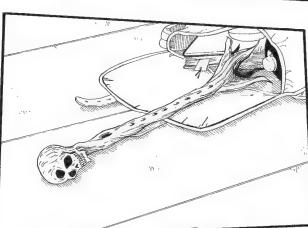






Hm?















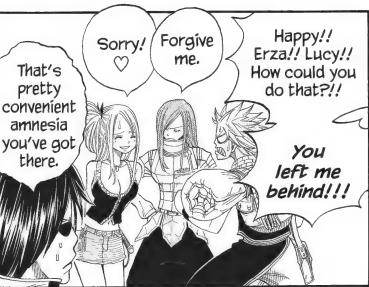


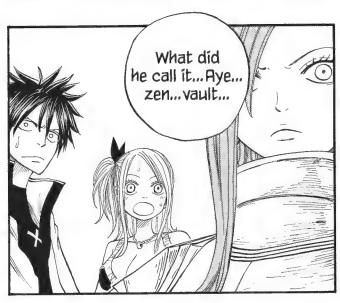


















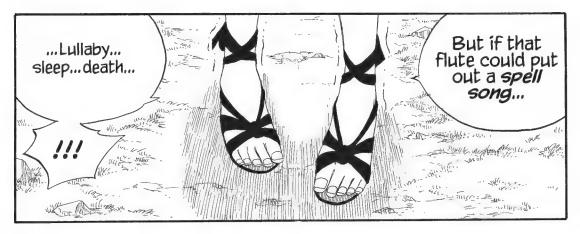














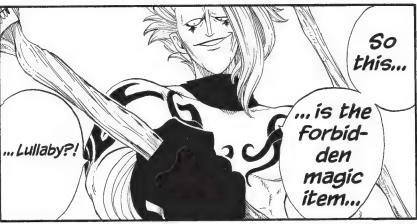














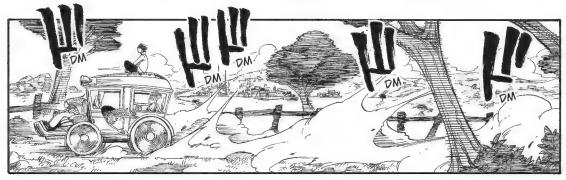










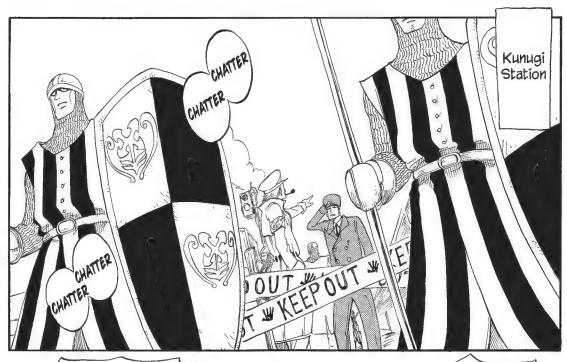






Chapter 13: Death Laughs Twice



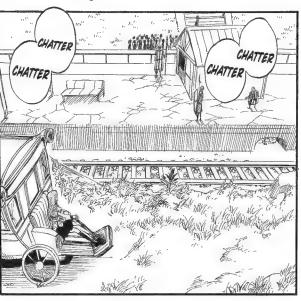






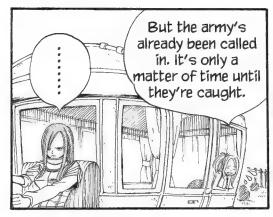








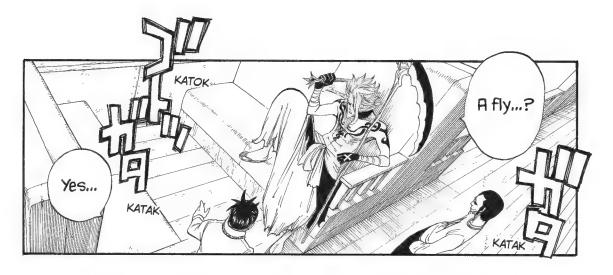






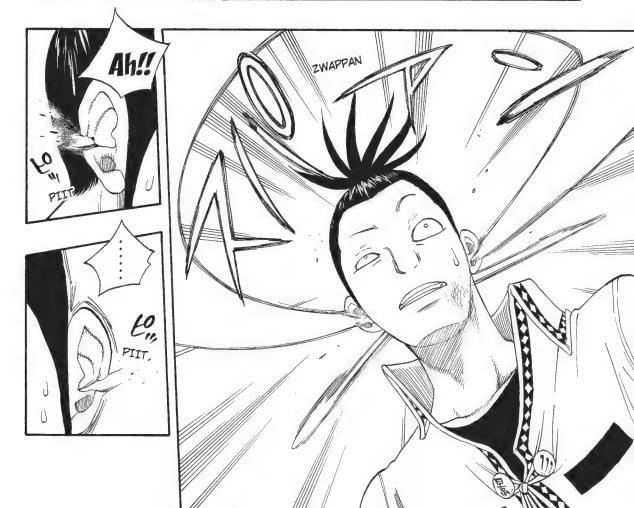






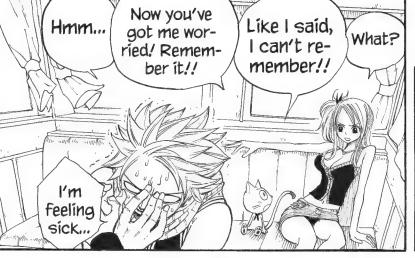




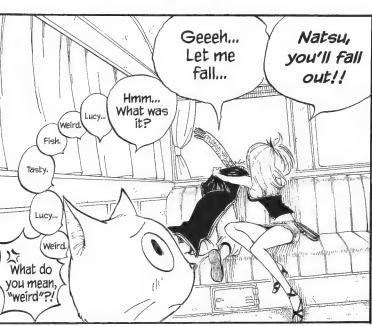






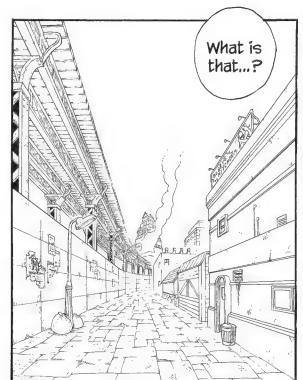




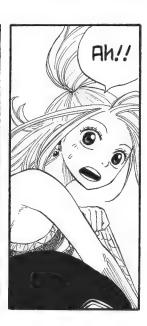


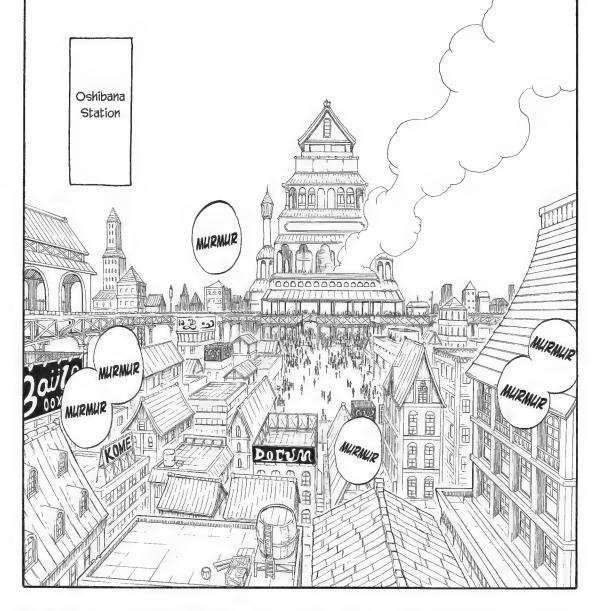




















the Eisenwald

terrorists?

The same

We're

going

in!!

being

Яуе-

aye!

Right!

fighting

come out,

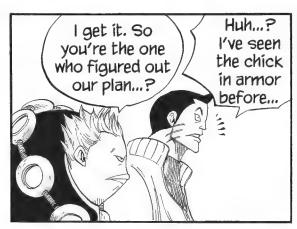
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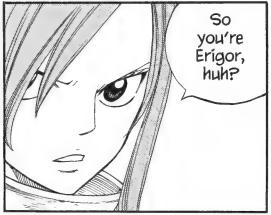


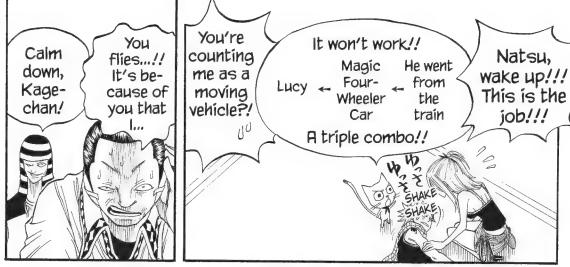


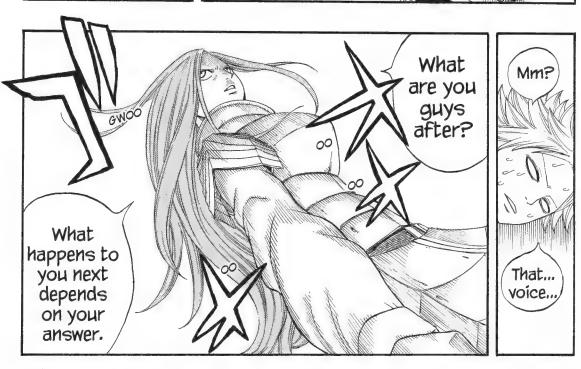






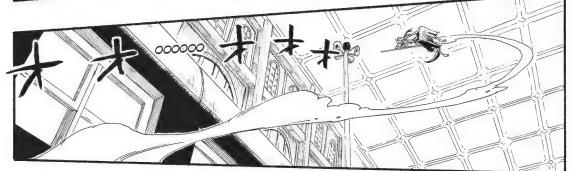




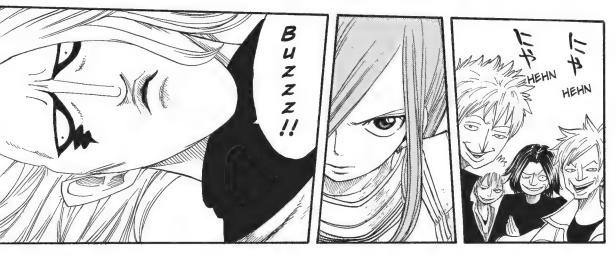




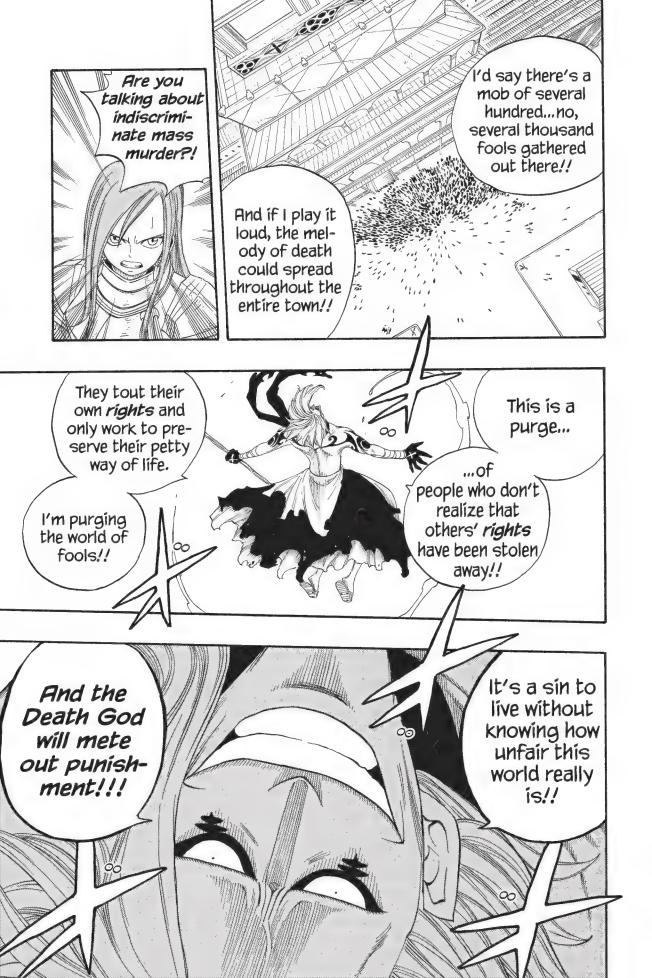




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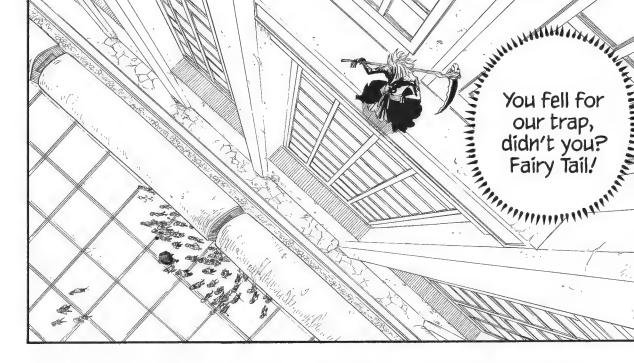










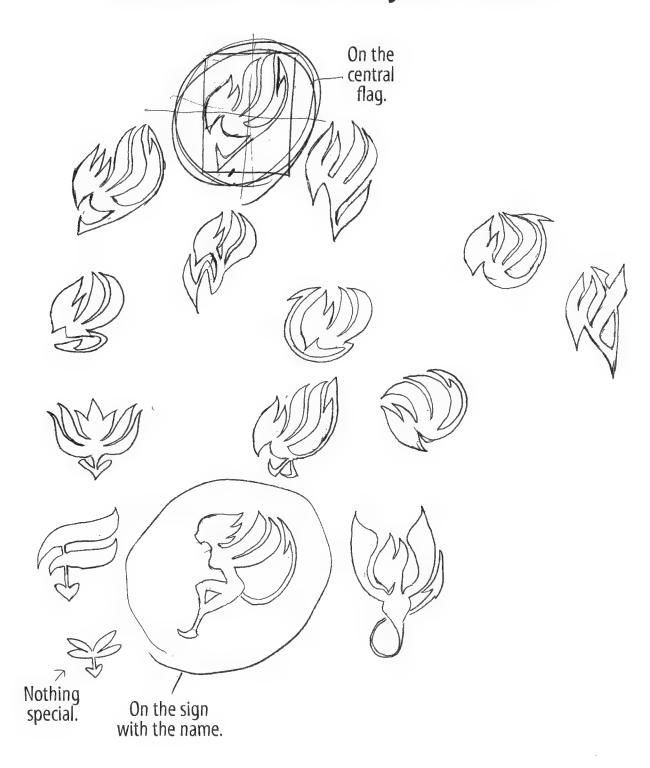






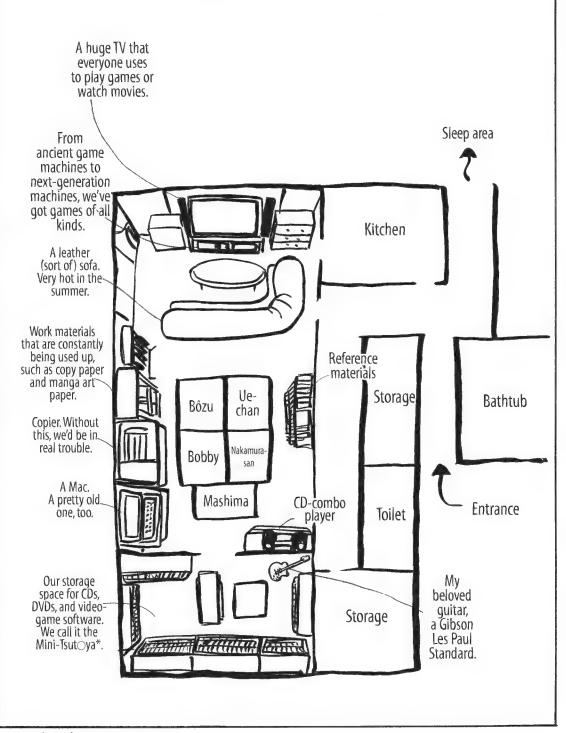
TO BE CONTINUED

The Road to the Fairy Tail Mark



The one in the circle at the very top is the final approved design. There was a lot of trial and error to get to that point, huh? I included the one on the bottom left, but it wasn't ever a serious idea.

This Is the Place Where Fairy Tail Is Made!!!



^{*}Tsutaya is a large Japanese music and video rental chain.

This Is the Fairy Tail Staff!!!



Bôzu (At first glance, he looks like a bad guy.)

Mashima

Bobby (At first glance, low-ranking Yakuza punk.)

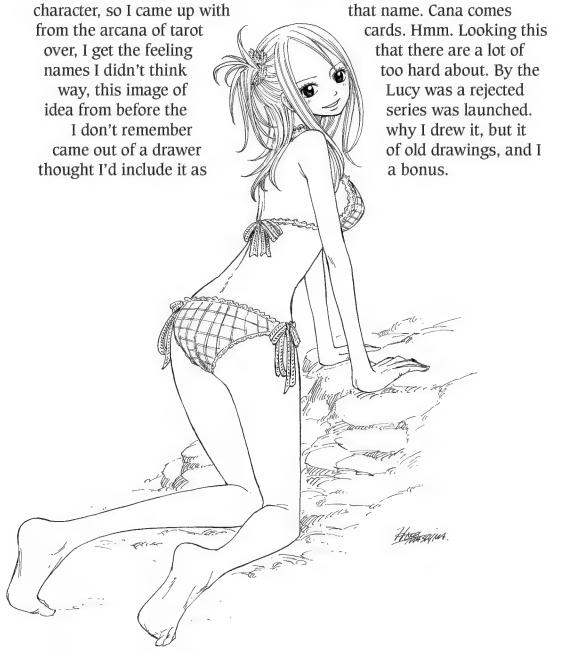
Ue-chan (At first glance, muscles.) Nakamura-san (At first glance, you'd think she parties late into the night.)

Creator (Originally a street punk.)

When people talk about this work, they always seem to say that it's a punk fantasy, but...Maybe it's because the people making it are punks and the work itself is fantasy...? Could that be it? But really, we're all great people!

About the Naming of the Characters

The main character is named Natsu. This is the truth. The name of my last main character was Haru (Japanese for "spring"), and after Haru comes Natsu (Japanese for "summer"). Sorry. Happy was originally named Freyr. It's the name of a Norse god. That was too much for him, so I changed it to something more appropriate. Lucy is from a Beatles song. At the time I decided to name her, the song was running through my mind. I don't remember exactly what I was thinking when I named Makarov, but I recall wanting something that sounded vaguely Russian. Mirajane is the name of a character I came to know in an online game. I don't remember where I got Gray. (Ha ha!) The name of Erza came from the heroine of my ancient short story "Fairy Tale," Eru. Loke is named after the Norse god. I wanted a somewhat cute name for the Elfman





The second volume. In what seems like no time at all, we have the second volume. Boy, that was fast! What with one thing and another, I've been pretty busy lately, and the time just seems to be flying by. It only seems like a little while back that I started this series, and we're already publishing the second volume! At this pace, I'll be releasing the tenth volume in no time flat.... Naw, just kidding. I don't know if it'll even be popular enough to last that long, and I decided a while ago to stop stressing over the future. That's right, speaking of the future, I haven't given any thought to how this series is going to turn out! (Ha ha!) Other artists and editors have commented, "Your universe looks like it's going to expand to an amazing size, huh?" But to tell the truth, I haven't really thought about it. What should I do...? Series currently in planning stage. I've been simply enjoying myself for such a long time, I really should get serious!! But once I say that, I forget about the future and get absorbed in drawing pages again. Because of that, I wonder myself what's going to happen next, and without quite knowing, I just keep on going. But... that's all right for now.

And for that reason, I'm looking for letters from you fans. You can say, "I want Natsu to take on this kind of job!" Or, "I'd like to see this kind of stuff in the bonus pages of the graphic novel!" Now accepting suggestions.

Kodansha Comics 451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016 publicity@kodanshacomics.com

Any letters sent to this address will definitely get to me personally. Please write! And so... On to the third volume!! It will come out, right? Volume 3...

About the Creator

HIRO MASHIMA was born May 3, 1977, in Nagano Prefecture. His series *Rave Master* has made him one of the most popular manga artists in America. *Fairy Tail*, currently being serialized in *Weekly Shônen Magazine*, is his latest creation.

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

General Notes: Wizard

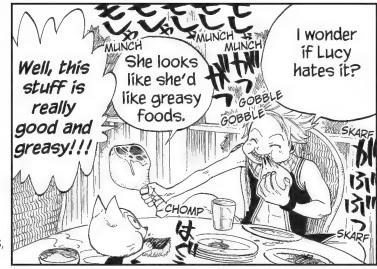
In the original Japanese version of *Fairy Tail*, you'll find panels in which the English word "wizard" is part of the original illustration. So this translation has taken that as its inspiration and translated the word *madôshi* as "wizard." But *madôshi*'s meaning is similar to certain Japanese words that have been borrowed by the English language, such as *judo* (the soft way) and *kendo* (the way of the sword). *Madô* is the way of magic, and *madôshi* are those who follow the way of magic. So although the word "wizard" is used in the original dialogue, a Japanese reader would be likely to think not of traditional Western wizards such as Merlin or Gandalf, but of martial artists.

Names

Hiro Mashima has graciously agreed to provide official English spellings for just about all the characters in *Fairy Tail*. Because this version of *Fairy Tail* is the first publication of most of these spellings, there will inevitably be differences between these spellings and some of the fan interpretations that may have spread throughout the Web or in other fan circles. Rest assured that the spellings contained in this book are the spellings that Mashima-sensei wanted for *Fairy Tail*.

Greasy foods, page 7

The Japanese diet is famous for its low fat content, but there are many native Japanese foods that are just as artery-clogging and delicious as any famously fatty Western dish. Meats, fried foods, and



other foods with high fat and oil content are called *aburakkoi*. Aside from the standard "greasy" foods like fatty pork or beef, or the cooked-in-oil foods such as tempura, the entire class of "rich" foods with a high fat or butter content are also described as *aburakkoi*. Because of its fattening reputation, women are supposed to avoid *aburakkoi* food, but the sweet taste of rich foods is hard for anybody to avoid.



Face markings, page 36

The smaller of the two Vanish Brothers is dressed in the classic style of a Chinese Buddhist monk. The markings on his face, while seeming to hold deep meanings, actually only say "up" on his forehead, "down" on his chin, and "right" and "left" for his right and left cheeks, respectively.

Good afternoon, page 36

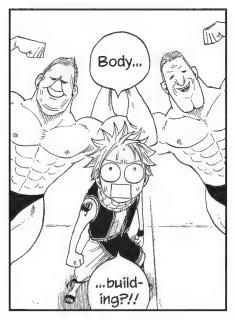
The monk-style Vanish Brother actually used the English, "Good afternoon," in his greeting to Natsu and the team. A peculiar aspect of his speech is that he often peppers it with English words (despite his distinct Chinese appearance). Since only a small minority of readers of this translation would be able to understand the Japanese equivalents of these words (let alone any other language), I decided to leave the English in English and use other ways to put across the pretentiousness of his character.

Mama, page 36

Who is the spiky-haired Vanish Brother talking about when he constantly refers to "Mama"? We don't know yet. Hopefully that question will be answered during the course of *Fairy Tail*'s development as a series.

Bodybuilding, page 48

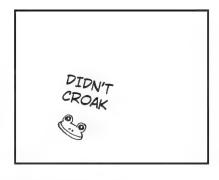
When describing what he considered to be the main weakness of wizards, the monk-style Vanish Brother used the Japanese word nikutai. When taken as a whole, nikutai simply means "body" in the sense of a flesh-and-blood body. But the Japanese word is made up of two kanji, one that means "muscles" and another kanji which alone also means "body." Natsu, glomming on to the "muscle" meaning, thought of bodybuilders; however, just hearing the word "body" in English wouldn't give the impression of bodybuilding. So I arranged the



translation so that the Vanish Brothers' dialogue causes Natsu to think of "bodybuilders" without changing the meaning of either the Vanish Brothers' lines or Natsu's.

Didn't croak, page 54

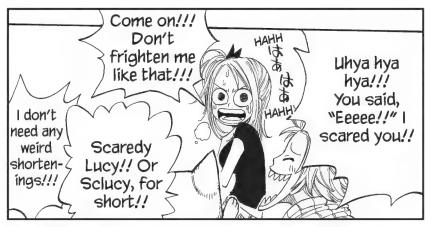
The actual sound effect, *kero*, is the sound of someone bouncing back from what one would think of as a severe blow. However, it is very close in sound to *gero*, which is, to the Japanese, the sound that a frog makes. Unfortunately, "ribbit" does not have a "bouncing back" meaning in English, but



since "to croak" means both "to make a sound like a frog" and "to die," that became the basis for the translation of the pun on this page.

End a sentence with "-kani," page 74

Many manga and anime fans are familiar with characters who end their sentences with odd syllables. The eternally popular Lum of Rumiko Takahashi's *Urusei Yatsura* manga always ended her sentences with "-cha." And most depictions of crabs on TV, picture books, or other media will have the crab end its sentences with "-kani" (a sound considered especially cute). It is so much a Japanese custom, that it's almost expected for any crab characters to end their sentences that way. So when Cancer ends his sentences with "-ebi" ("shrimp"), it comes as a great shock to Happy.

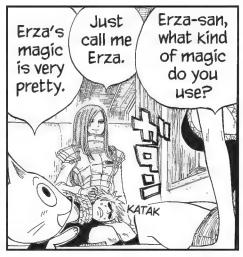


Sclucy, page 109

In the Japanese version, Natsu's nickname for Lucy was a combination of the Japanese word for "scaredy cat" (bibiri), and the Japanese pronunciation of Lucy's name (Rushii), shortening it to Birii. The Japanese nickname wouldn't work very well with English-language readers, so it was changed to Sclucy, which would be a little more familiar.

Just call me Erza, page 134

In this panel we have some of the workings of Japanese honorifics (see the list at the end of the book) in action. Erza is forgoing some of the niceties of the Japanese language, and telling Lucy that she doesn't need to add the -san honorific to Erza's name. There is a very similar English language situation. If you were to meet someone named Jonathan Smith, and you called him Mr. Smith, he might ask



you to instead call him Jon. The feeling implied in "Call me Jon," in this situation is almost exactly the same as Erza's "Just call me Erza," in the manga.



Buzzz, page 179

As in America, TV game shows are very popular in Japan. And the ever-popular buzzer, to tell when time is up or when an answer is wrong, is also found on both sides of the Pacific. The buzz on this page is Erigor's way of saying that time is up for the members of Fairy Tail to make their guesses.



It's so much fun to come up with all the different kinds of magic...or at least it should be!! But aside from Natsu and Lucy, there are so many characters, and I have to think up different types of magic and abilities for each of them! That's what it means to build a world, and it's pretty rough work! Still, there are some very intricate backgrounds for the supporting characters, and someday I'd like to go into these in detail.

—Hiro Mashima

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Kodansha Comics books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from honorifics in American English, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Kodansha not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Kodansha Comics.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/

Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

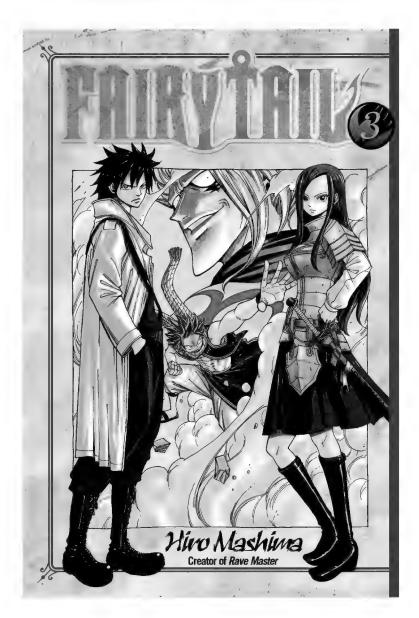
Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

Preview of Volume 3

We're pleased to present you with a preview from volume 3, now available from Kodansha Comics. Check out our Web site (www.kodanshacomics.com) for more details!

























Fairy Tail volume 2 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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